

MIND READING TRICK IS SUCCESSFULLY EXPOSED

IT IS NOTHING BUT A FINE ART OF MUSCLE READING ASSISTED BY QUICK WIT AND A PERFECTED BLIND FOLD—HOW BISHOP WORKED.

"Suggestion," a magazine devoted to an exposure of occult science, gives the following explanation of how the great mind-reading "blindfold drive" that is classed as one of the great feats of mind-reading masters. Bishop and Cumberland mentioned have visited and given exhibitions in Honolulu:

So many persons who see the blindfold drive performed believe firmly that it is a positive demonstration of telepathy, and many of our readers have sent clippings from newspapers referring to these performances, while others have written to say that telepathy can be the only explanation.

Now this blindfold drive is not an evidence of telepathy. All it requires is a little nerve, quick wit, some practice, and anyone can accomplish it.

There are two ways of performing the drive, and one of these two methods, or a combination of the two, is used by every professional entertainer who attempts this feat.

In the first method the "mind reader" is blindfolded with an ordinary handkerchief and has to depend on a great deal upon "muscle reading" during the drive and in finding the object after alighting from the carriage. Even in this test the operator can nearly always see fairly well through the handkerchief—well enough to avoid obstacles when directing the horses, and he can always see under it. For this reason many operators are seen to lean far back while driving.

If the "guide" the operator has chosen is a good "sensitive" it is very easy to read from his muscles while he drives and which way to turn the horses. This drive requires personal contact and some practice.

See Through the Mask.
The other method, although appearing more like telepathy, is much more simple. The mask worn, although apparently very heavy and opaque, is made in such a way that the operator can see everything through it as clearly as though nothing were covering his eyes. The construction of this mask will be explained later.

All the average spectator sees is a blindfolded man driving furiously through the streets without using any personal contact, and because there is no contact he credits the results to mind reading. But there is one part of the performance that does not seem a part which is not fully grasped as a rule by those who are not aware that the operator can see them as clearly as they can see him. This part is performed before the drive is begun, and generally occurs in a room in a hotel. Someone is asked to leave the hotel to drive a horse to any place in the city and hide a given object. When the driver returns he is asked to trace on the wall the course he took and the position of the house in the block in which the object was hid. This does not seem to be an unreasonable request, since the operator appears to be so thoroughly blindfolded and the reason given for doing it is that it fastens the route more firmly in the mind of the sensitive. However, when we know that the operator can see every movement that is made, the real reason for this request is very apparent.

When the operator has reached his destination with the horses, his mind reading becomes more difficult and he has to take the hand of the sensitive to locate the object through muscle reading.

Muscle Reading Comes In.

Muscle reading looks difficult to one who has never tried it, but if any reader will practice it a little its simplicity will become apparent. Try it and see for yourself. You should know the object to be found, and if you will hold your arm slightly bent and keep it stiff while holding your sensitive's hand, you can fairly feel him lead you towards it when he concentrates his whole attention on the place where it is hid. If you do not succeed at the first attempt change "sensitives" until you obtain a good one. Do not let those with whom you are experimenting know that you are trying muscle reading or you will fail. If they know you are attempting muscle reading their attention will be partly on their muscles, and even though they should be willing for you to succeed they will unconsciously defeat you. Hypnotic somnambles make good sensitives for this test, but anyone who will concentrate his attention on the object will do. "Attention is a motor force. Keep your attention upon an object and the tendency is to go toward it."

There are many tricks to learn about blindfolding which would require illustrations to describe fully, but anyone with a little ingenuity can soon master these even without instruction.

Frequently, when students are in attendance at the Chicago School of Pay-

chology, I perform the feats of these professional mind readers (I should have said muscle readers). I have no difficulty in finding a book which has been selected from the library and replaced, and will turn to the correct page and find a word which has been selected. All this requires a little practice, and the other experiments are more easily performed than this. I have also performed the "blindfold drive" feat successfully upon several occasions, but have relied solely on the muscle reading.

Remember, what I have stated at other times, "The means by which a professional performer attempts to show there is no deception is generally the means by which the deception is accomplished." In the blindfold drive, the means used to show that the operator does not use his eyes is the means by which he is able to see.

If on a "Committee."

If any of our readers are asked to act upon a committee for one of these entertainers and desires to test the matter for himself, simply tell the operator that you will take his word when he says he does not use his eyes, and show you do not doubt him of for to dispense with the blindfold completely. Tell him you will be satisfied if he keeps his eyelids shut down tightly. If the operator is one who has depended upon the mohair mask he will have to use personal contact and fall back on muscle reading, and if he resorts to muscle reading there will be no furious driving of the horses. I wish some of our readers would try this suggestion at an early opportunity and report the result to me for publication.

In performing these muscle reading tests you can increase the interest and heighten the effect by snapping your fingers and breathing rapidly as though the exertion were very great. When your tests are completed you can appear greatly exhausted.

The following clipping appeared recently in a newspaper. It speaks for itself.

Blindfolded and free from physical contact, Professor McEwen, the hypnotist and mind reader, at noon today drove through the crowded streets of the city, found a book which had been secretly hidden in White's restaurant, drove back to the Auditorium theater, opened the book and picked out the words "A. D. Parker," on page 285, and which had been previously selected by Mayor Byrne and N. E. Nuzum.

McEwen is said to be the only mind reader in the world who makes his drive free from contact, and he is the inventor and first successful performer in drives of this kind with or without contact.

For this morning's performance a committee, consisting of Mayor Byrne, N. E. Nuzum, exalted ruler of the Elks, and Jack Wilmont, was chosen, and these gentlemen occupied seats in the carriage. The start was made shortly before noon, and the hypnotist, blindfolded and standing in the carriage, guided the horses going at a rapid rate of speed through the crowded street with a marvelous skill and dexterity. The police patrol was driven in front of the team by the order of the mayor. Its course, however, was directed by the blindfolded driver, who shouted directions to the team in front.

The course selected by the committee was so arranged that it led the driver twice past the place where the book was hidden and one of the most remarkable parts of the test was that when the place was reached McEwen exclaimed: "I ought to stop here, but you are making me go on," and continued until he arrived there a second time. Stopping in front of the restaurant, the mind reader took the mayor's hand in his, and rushed into the place, back to the rear, and uncovered the book without any apparent hesitation.

Then back to the carriage and on a dead run to the Auditorium, where he proceeded to find the words before mentioned. When he finished he was nearly exhausted, but stated that he was in good condition.

"The test was perfect," said Mayor Byrne, after it was all over. "It was the most wonderful performance I ever had anything to do with, and I am thoroughly convinced as to the science of mental telepathy and mind reading. The whole thing was absolutely on the square, and no man ever had a fairer test than did Mr. McEwen."—Chronicle, Spokane, Wash.

How Mind Reading Began.

Recently I came across a chapter on mind reading in a book entitled "Leaves from Conjurers' Scrap Books," the author of which is Mr. H. J. Burlingame. Mr. Burlingame is an esteemed personal friend and has given me permission to publish that part of the chapter which relates to the subject of muscle reading. I feel certain it will prove of interest and it covers the whole subject very nicely.

Mind reading began its career in Chicago. The sensation produced by it was astonishing, and it has not yet "had its day." It has not only puzled the minds of every-day people of the world, but has also engaged the attention of scholars, scientific men, states-

men and even crowned heads. The first person who made any display of it was J. Randall Brown. He became a monomaniac on the subject, experimenting with all his acquaintances, and informing them of the many wonderful things he could do, till they began to think he was "possessed," as some of them expressed it. Brown's first public success, and that which caused him to adopt mind reading as a profession, was, strange to say, on a wager which he made with an old and well-known resident of Chicago. He made a bet that he could find a pin, no matter where it was concealed, stipulating only that it should be within walking distance. After considerable speculation as to where the hiding place should be, the gentleman concealed the pin beneath one of the rugs in front of the Sherman House. Brown was blindfolded, took his friend's hand, and, after wandering about, led directly to the spot, much to the surprise of his pocketbook. Brown, feeling assured of success, now started out professionally. He made a tour of the States creating great astonishment, and coining both notoriety and money. His success was unprecedented, but he could not stand prosperity. He fell from public notice, being physically incapacitated for a considerable time from following up his profession. About four or five years ago he resumed the stage, and since then has been traveling about, giving much the same entertainment as formerly.

How Bishop Started.

Washington Irving Bishop traveled with Brown for some time as assistant, and finally discovering how the trick was done was shrewd enough to go abroad where it had not yet been introduced. For a person having no credentials whatever and no means, Bishop created a most astonishing sensation. He required an assistant, and secured the services of a bright young man named Charles Garner, who, like Bishop, was well posted in anti-spiritualist performances. Like his employer, Garner was an assistant but a short time until he also became master of the art, taking it at once to the continent, where, under the name of Stuart Cumberland, he, too, made a great success. The public exploits of these two gentlemen are well known. Their careers have attracted the attention of many scientific men, and much speculation has been made as to the cause and effect of their tests.

The pursuit of mind reading as a profession (such is the claim put forth) does not affect the nervous system any more than any other intellectual calling, in fact not as much. All though circulators of prominent mind readers are, in very large part, exaggerations of the possibilities of their performance, and such as are probably beyond the power of man to accomplish, nevertheless, the work may be varied in form as indefinitely as the performer's brain is fertile of invention. The one essential condition which is to be impressed unmistakably upon those who take part in the performance, is that the person to be led to the secreted article must concentrate his mind upon the place where the article is hidden, until that place has been reached by the mind reader and himself, and then upon the article itself. This mental concentration is required as constantly as possible to the end. If the mind reader fails, the fault lies with the subject, for he must succeed, it is claimed, if the subject fairly complies with this single condition. There may occasionally be found an individual incapable of prolonged or even brief mental concentration, because of great trouble, loss of fortune, or ill health. Such subjects are always to be avoided if possible, as the accomplishment of the trick with them is exceedingly improbable, if not altogether impossible.

It follows, then, that the best minds available should always be chosen. The mind reader has, then, nothing to do but to establish physical contact between himself and his subject, and, after starting a motion of his body in any direction, quietly surrender himself to the involuntary muscular leading of his subject, when he will find himself led unconsciously to the proper place.

Hand on the Forehead.

Almost any physical contact will be sufficient, although Brown's method of placing the back of the subject's hand to his forehead is probably the best, because the most impressive. When you have the back of the subject's hand to your forehead, start a swaying motion around and go in the direction you find it easiest for the subject and yourself to move; go and you will be led to the place. If you lead him in a different direction to the one he is thinking of, you will find more resistance to moving him or his hand. To be blindfolded is not essential, although helpful, because it presents the appearance of rendering the work of the mind reader more difficult, while it really assists him in being passive to the leadings of his subject, as it shuts out from his mind all exterior distractions. The body of any and every person has always an inclination, more or less strong, in the directions of the thoughts of the mind, more especially so if the body is in motion. For instance, if you think of an object on your right, accompanying that thought will be a slight motion of the body in the same direction. Then place your mind upon some other object in the opposite direction, and over will go the body accordingly.

Mind and Matter.

This natural law of mutual dependence between mind and matter—or habit of harmony of action between the brain and body, of man or beast—is, it is claimed, the whole secret of mind reading. It follows that all the mind reader has to do is simply to observe carefully the actions of the muscles of his subject's hand against his forehead, and follow in the direction indicated by the subject's muscles, and he will find himself led unmistakably

toward the place upon which the subject's mind is concentrated. Having reached the place, the mind reader will feel around with one hand until the secreted article is found, and as soon as his hand touches it—although he has no previous knowledge of its nature—he will recognize it instinctively, for the subject has unconsciously imparted such information by the relaxation of his muscles. As the mind is indivisible; or, in other words, as it is impossible for a person's mind to be in two places at the same time, it is plainly to be seen that if the subject honestly concentrates his mind upon the article hidden, he cannot discover the fact that he is leading the so-called mind reader, instead of being led himself. It is obvious from the foregoing explanation, that instead of being led himself, it is obvious from the foregoing explanation, that instead of the mind reader being the operator and leading the subject, as is generally supposed, he is himself led by the subject; hence the mind reader is the subject, and the subject the operator. To sum it all up, the mind reader "must follow the least resistance."

Mind Reading Tricks.

The tricks of mind reading are too numerous and varied to be mentioned in this connection, but we will give the leading ones: (1) The finding of a concealed article, usually a pin. (2) The finding of a person thought of. (3) The imaginary murder: a number of knives are laid on the table, and are considered instruments of death. Any person selects any one of the knives, and with it kills, in his mind, one of the audience; then conceals the knife and the body, the latter imaginary of course. The mind reader first finds the murderer, then the knife, then the party supposed to have been killed, and whether it was a thrust or a slash, then the place where the body was to be concealed. (4) The love-token, very popular with the ladies. A young man thinks of a handsome lady present to whom he would present a bouquet as a token of love. The mind reader takes the bouquet in his hands, and finds the lady, to whom he presents it. (5) The game of chess. Two gentlemen are seated at a table to play chess; one of them actually plays, the mind reader guesses the play of the other; that is, he takes and places the men the other only thought of. A very fine experiment. (6) The living picture or tableau. Several ladies and gentlemen form a tableau, all in different or grotesque positions, and then resume their seats. The mind reader finds each person in the order they were called, and places each one in the same position they were before, forming the tableau perfectly. (7) The finding any number thought of, usually of a bank-note. The mind reader holds in his right hand a piece of chalk, and the person who knows the number places his or her right hand on the right hand of the mind reader, thinks first of the first number or figure of the series, and the mind reader writes thus the first figure on the blackboard, and so on till the full number is written. The hand of the mind reader is guided entirely by the hand of the subject. (8) Drawing. A painter thinks of an animal, and the mind reader draws an outline of the same. The principal is the same as writing a number thought of. (9) To find things placed on a table or to select a small object from a large number of objects. The mind reader places the finger tips of the left hand of the subject on the finger tips of his right hand, moves them thus connected to and fro over the articles. The mind reader can be blindfolded. When the hand is over the article thought of, the mind reader feels a strong pulsation in the finger tips of the subject, and this is always a proof that the article is the one thought of.

Trick Was Exposed.

"A week ago last Saturday Dr. Gatchell broke up Johnstone's performance at Central Music Hall and yesterday he showed a Tribune reporter how the young man from St. Paul does the trick. He did it more easily and better than Johnstone had done it, and he used neither whisky nor hysterics to help him out."

"The Tribune reporter and Dr. Butler composed the committee which tested Dr. Gatchell in his rooms at No. 235 Michigan avenue yesterday morning."

"I will imagine I am Johnstone," he said. Then he snapped his fingers and stamped and sweated just as Johnstone did. "Put these gloves over my eyes. Now tie them tightly with this handkerchief. I want the gloves to be near the optic nerve. That's right. Higher, a little. Now try this hood on and tell me if you can see through it."

"The hood was a double thickness of black cloth, and only a faint light came through its meshes. The reporter said he couldn't see, and the doctor, still imitating Johnstone, drew the hood over his own head."

"Pick out a word in the Century Magazine and remember the page." "The committee chose the word 'ignorant.'"

"Now take a trip through the hall and down stairs. Remember the directions and the number of steps you take."

"The committee went out, turned to the right a few yards, came back, went downstairs eight steps, and returned to the room."

"Stand against that wall," Dr. Gatchell said to the reporter. Then to Dr. Butler: "Trace in the air the directions you took. Now the number of steps. Now the page in the magazine and the word you selected."

Called for Whisky.

"Dr. Butler did all this because he was the man who made the tracings for Johnstone. When he had finished, Dr. Gatchell seized one hand, the reporter took the other, and the three men galloped into the hall. Dr. Gatchell dragged the committee to the right, back again, down eight stairs, up eight stairs, and into the room. Then he called for whisky because Johnstone had called for it. Unlike Johnstone, he didn't drink it."

"Pencil and paper!" he shouted. "The pencil and paper were furnished. The doctor bent over the book and ran through the pages, shouting, meantime: 'Give me air.' 'Why don't you keep your mind concentrated?' 'Whisky. No; hold on, boys, I don't want any.' When he reached the page he stopped and said: 'Your minds are off the subject. Why don't you say this is the page?'"

"It is," said the committee. Then the doctor snapped his fingers more and more faintly once to give verisimilitude to the imitation and finally wrote a word on the paper. The word was "ignorant."

"The imitation had been successful. The hood had been examined as closely as it was examined by the committee at the Auditorium Hotel. Dr. Butler had made all the test conditions that have ever been enforced at Johnstone's exhibitions. At least one of the committee never thought of the word once after the fun began; yet Dr. Gatchell had not only picked one word out of forty, but one out of 400 or 500."

"Then he sat down and laughed."

Would You Like to Know.
"Would you like to know how it is done?" he said. "Look at these two gloves. You see I fold them and place them against my eyes. That is Johnstone's first deceit. It looks like an additional safeguard against fraud, but he couldn't read a mind without it. Tie this handkerchief about my head. Tie it as tight as you can and knot is above my ears. Johnstone always tells you to tie it tight, and that seems like an other safeguard. Without it he couldn't do his trick."

"The doctor's eyes were apparently bandaged securely, the strain of the handkerchief falling on that part of the glove which rested against his contracted eyebrows. When he raised

CAN BE DONE BY ANY ONE WHO WILL TAKE THE TROUBLE TO PRACTICE—DOCTOR WHO DID THE TRICK—THE STREET DRIVE.

subject. An account in the Chicago Tribune, a short time afterwards, has this to say of Johnstone:

"If Paul Alexander Johnstone is not a fraud he is a most remarkable young man. He is a fraud, some of the smartest people in Chicago will feel sheepish today when they know they have been deceived by a trick as transparent as the mohair hood which Dr. Charles Gatchell asserts Johnstone peered through when he made his famous trip in the downtown streets September 10."

"Dr. Gatchell is a well-known physician and is editor of the Medical Era of this city. He occupies the chair of the theory and practice of medicine at the University of Michigan and is a confirmed materialist. He doesn't believe in mind reading or thought transference. It was an unlucky day for Johnstone when Dr. Gatchell got on his trail. Dr. Gatchell followed him in his trip through the streets and was confident the alleged mind reading was fraudulent. He had no way of proving it, though, till he met Dr. G. F. Butler, a lecturer at Rush Medical College, whose office is at No. 249 Wabash avenue. Dr. Butler was a member of the committee which accompanied Johnstone, and he had his suspicions, when he had talked with Dr. Gatchell and the two doctors had experimented a little, they learned, as they think, the secret of the tricks by which Johnstone deluded the public and gathered more money in a month than most men make in a year."

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DYSPEPSIA is caused by imperfect or lack of secretion of gastric juices in the stomach. If this disease is neglected Gastric ulcers appear at a certain stage and slowly eat into the lining of the stomach, poisoning the blood and preventing any nourishment being absorbed from the food. If neglected the end of dyspepsia is death by starvation unless a gnawing ulcer penetrates an artery and causes sudden death by internal hemorrhage. If you are a dyspeptic don't neglect your trouble, don't despair. Try

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the brow, up went the bandage and the twinkling eyes peering out under the gloves saw everything in the room.

"Now," he said, "look at this hood. With a quick motion of his hands he yanked the hood apart and drew the outer cover over the reporter's head. The cloth was mohair and as transparent as the street veils women wear."

The committeeman took off the mohair and tried on the outer hood. It was thick broadcloth and as difficult to see through as a board.

All There Was to It.
"Wait," cried the doctor. He pulled the strings that secured the hood around the neck, and lo! the front seam opened wide. That was all there was of it. The apparently supernatural feat of mind reading became as simple as the commonest parlor trick. There was nothing occult about it. Anybody can be a P. Alexander Johnstone so long as the sideshow draws crowds and green goods are for sale."

"I have been led to expose this trickery," said Dr. Gatchell, "because this man is unseating the faith of the people. Bishop was as bad but no worse than Johnstone. I am surprised that the intelligent, cynical men of the world who saw him drive through the streets and pick out the name in the register were taken in so easily. I examined this hood at Central Music Hall and found it was double. I did not have an opportunity to look for the aperture, but I am confident I have reproduced the garment he wore when I saw him. When he tested the Auditorium committee he made one of the members trace the route before he left."

"I did that," said Dr. Butler, "and I want to tell you something in connection with it. When we drove over the route first we went to Monroe street. I made a mistake when I traced and drew 'two and one-half blocks north.' Instead of three and one-half. That threw him off, and, although I kept my mind firmly fixed on Monroe street and he claimed to read my thoughts, he turned on Adams street. That was what first made me suspicious."

"He watched the tracing through the aperture in the inner hood," Dr. Gatchell continued. "Then he made me suspicious."

"He watched the tracing through the aperture in the inner hood," Dr. Gatchell continued. "Then he made the committee trace the name and date chosen in the Grand Pacific Hotel, and he was ready. Did you notice how he drove? He stooped with his back bent and his head thrust forward. He could see in the broad light of the afternoon every bit as well as you can, and you could have driven as he did. When he reached the hotel he asked to be sent to a room. He remained there alone for five minutes, and when he came downstairs his hood was gone. He said he needed fresh air. Maybe he did, but the coincidence is strange that the office of the Grand Pacific Hotel is so dark that one cannot read in it through a mohair mask. When he had turned the leaves to the date August 25, with his eyes close to the book as I held mine, he found the name J. G. Butler Jr., which had been selected for the test, and wrote it on a piece of paper."

"The 'Jr.' wasn't in my mind at all," said Dr. Butler.

"When he went home," Dr. Gatchell resumed, "he had what looked like congestion of the brain. I am satisfied from the symptoms described to me that he had nothing but hysteria and whisky—the kind of hysteria a woman gets when she wants to frighten her husband into buying a new bonnet for her; the kind of hysteria they sell at the bar of the Grand Pacific Hotel. His pulse was higher. That was the whisky. My pulse is over 100 at this moment from the exercise I have taken."

"I propose to show this man up as a trickster, and to do this I will make these offers: I will pay him \$500, or I will hand it over to a charitable institution, if he repeats the performance of September 10 and lets me do the blindfolding. Or, if he will repeat the performance, I will do it after him with the same committee or forfeit to him \$500. Or I will forfeit \$500 if he will 'read' a single word in my mind under simple test conditions. I don't know how he opened the safe. I can only explain and repeat what I have seen him do."

"The doctor left at the Tribune office a certified check for \$500. Whenever Dr. Gatchell will write a name on the back of the check and pin the check to his wall. Then, if Paul Alexander Johnstone writes the name on another piece of paper Paul Alexander can

take the check and place it in his waistcoat pocket.

"A reporter tried to bring the mind reader to the Tribune office yesterday. Mr. Johnstone looked as healthy as a farmer's boy. When told of the test proposed his health began to fail. First he wouldn't come for money."

"Hundreds have offered me \$1,000 bills if I could tell the number of the bills," he said. "I always gave the number and refused the money."

"Where were those offers made?"

"O, I don't remember exactly, they were so frequent."

"Can you name one town of the hundred?"

"Let me see. I think one place was Appleton, Wisconsin. No, I'm not sure of that, either."

"When it was suggested that the matter of money be waived he pleaded the absence from town of his manager, Gooding, and when that obstacle was battered down with argument he said he was too sick to work. While he talked he grew worse, and when the interview ended he looked as if he needed a doctor's care. He said Gooding had his hood and his bandages."

"Johnstone has made a good deal of money by his performances. He was patronized by the Press Club and was taken up by the Union Club and many societies to his great pecuniary advantage. His last show was before the Union Club, and the wealthy young men of that organization were spell-bound by his phenomenal feats of mind reading."

"SCIENTIFIC" MISTAKES
Above is found an account of the recent ventilation agitation, which attempts to prove that bad air is healthy, says the American Inventor. This is but one of many of childhood's teachings which the scientific men of the present day aim to upset.

Twenty years ago oatmeal was a healthy food—brain and brawn thrived on it, and the Scotch porridge was much in evidence in maternal and paternal illustrations of the good of unsugared mush.

Today oatmeal every morning produces an acid stomach.

The last decade has seen more arguments against the corset than were ever raised against slavery. The corset was an engine of death and destruction, an enemy of the human race, an inhuman torture cage for unborn generations, and—etc., etc.

Today an eminent French scientist says corsets are healthy, necessary, hygienic, everything that is beneficial. Who has not been taught that to read in bed was a bad habit, "lazy, shiftless," and as a crowning argument "so bad for the eyes?"

Now a German oculist says that to read lying down about half the time rests the eyes as nothing else will do, and advances a whole string of Latin names for proofs.

"Never mind the bad taste of the rain water, child; it's healthy." So said grandma when you took a drink from the cistern. Now rain water is the worst thing to drink, because, first, it is so pure it does not contain the necessary other-and-dangerous-bacteria-killing organisms, and, secondly, because it has washed out of the air so many disease germs!